

Agency Mission Statements

Complexities of managing a vast area spanning 3 states and 19 counties, administered by 10 different units from 3 agencies can be daunting. The complexity is further compounded because these lands include some of the nation's most treasured natural resources. The GYCC works together to help sustain a healthy and productive ecosystem that meets the needs of present and future generations, consistent with agency missions and unit plans.

Agencies share much in common in terms of broad goals, and operate under several important comprehensive laws such as the Endangered Species Act, the Clean Water Act, the Wilderness Act, and the National Environmental Policy Act. By their nature, these acts help ensure that agencies coordinate across boundaries.

However, it's also important to note that each agency has distinct laws and regulations, missions, and cultures. It's important to understand the distinctions because they help shape managers' decisions.



Department of the Interior National Park Service

"Experience Your America"

The National Park Service (NPS) manages over 380 units located in nearly every state and territory of the nation. The NPS is a field based resource preservation and visitor service organization. The NPS preserves unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and values of the National Park System for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations. The NPS cooperates with partners to extend the benefits of natural and cultural resource conservation and outdoor recreation throughout this country and the world. Website: <http://www.nps.gov/>



Department of the Interior U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service

"Conserving the Nature of America"

The Service has the privilege of being the primary federal agency responsible for the protection, conservation, and renewal of fish and wildlife and their habitats for this and future generations. However, it must be clearly recognized that because fish and wildlife

resources know no boundaries nor land ownership patterns, the conservation of those resources can only be accomplished through partnership efforts with other federal agencies, state and local governments, tribal governments, international and private organizations, and individuals.

The Service manages nearly 94 million acres across the United States, encompassing a network of 514 refuges of the National Wildlife Refuge System (NWRS) and 65 National Fish Hatcheries (NFHS). The National Wildlife Refuge System, the National Fish Hatchery System, along with the fish, wildlife, and plants that these systems protect and conserve, enrich people in a great variety of ways. Website: <http://www.fws.gov/>



Aspen.



Department of Agriculture U.S. Forest Service

"Caring for the Land and Serving People"

The U.S. Forest Service mission is to sustain the health, productivity, and diversity of the land to meet the needs of present and future generations. Conserving and restoring the health of the land is the principle underlying every Forest Service program. Healthy land is fundamental to human well-being and to providing a sustainable flow of goods and services. This approach to management, where goods and services are provided within the capability of the resource base is referred to as an "ecosystem approach" to land and water management, or ecosystem management.

Ecosystem management considers ecological, economic, and social factors in determining how to best maintain and enhance the quality of the environment to meet current and future needs for recreation, water, timber, minerals, range, fish, wildlife and wilderness on national forest lands.

The National Forest System consists of 192 million acres in 42 states, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. Website: <http://www.fs.fed.us>.